

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS – ACTION SUMMARY**  
**Thursday, October 23, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Administration Building – Board Chambers**  
**2101 Hurley Way, Sacramento, CA 95825**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Trujillo. Board Members present: Clark, Engellenner, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Lawson [arrived 6:20 p.m.], Trujillo, Valley. Staff: Fire Chief Mette, Board Clerk Tilson, General Counsel Margarita.

**PLEDGE TO FLAG**

**METRO CABLE 14 ANNOUNCEMENT**

The open session Meeting is videotaped for cablecast on Metro Cable 14. Replay on Saturday, October 25 at 1:00 PM and Monday, October 27 at 3:30 PM on Channel 14; Webcast at [www.sacmetro cable.tv](http://www.sacmetro cable.tv). A VHS copy is also available for checkout from any library branch.

**PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN DISTRICT JURISDICTION INCLUDING ITEMS ON OR NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Greg Larkins and Bill Camp appeared to clarify public comments they made at the Board meeting on October 9. Each recognized the service, integrity, and hard work of the District's Fire Fighters and its Union Leaders.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. Board Meeting Action Summary—October 9, 2008**

- **Board Action:**  
*Kelly/Engellenner—approve the Consent Agenda. ROLL CALL: Clark, Engellenner, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Director Lawson, absent. Motion carried.*

**ACTION ITEM(S):** None

**PRESENTATION ITEM(S)**     None

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT—(Trujillo)**     None

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT—(Mette)**

- Participated in the California State Fire Fighters Memorial service last Saturday. This year 26 names were added to the wall.
- Attended the California Fire & Rescue Training Authority meeting this morning at McClellan. There are many unresolved issues at McClellan.
- He and Finance Director Sponable will be attending the annual CalPERS conference in Southern California October 27 through October 29; followed by a tour of a couple training facilities with Deputy Chief Eastman and Larry Davis, the District's Grants/Economic Development Coordinator. Hopefully these various agencies will partnership with the District at our Rancho Cordova site. More information at a future Board meeting.
- Strategic Planning Process – conducted second round of meetings with up to 40 managers in attendance. Two more meetings scheduled November 5 and 6. Presentation at a future Board meeting.

- **OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT –**

Report by Deputy Chief Geoff Miller:

**Fire Incidents –**

7 working structure fires and 31 grass fires since the last Board meeting.

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Graduation –** Saturday, October 25, 3:00 p.m. at the Citrus Heights City Council Chambers, followed by an appreciation BBQ. Invited the Directors to attend.

**Health –** Captain Jim Peterson is recuperating at home in the new backyard created by the off-duty volunteer work of fellow firefighters.

- **TRAINING AND SAFETY DIVISION REPORT**

Battalion Chief Walt White and Safety Officer Captain Mike Teague gave a PowerPoint presentation with a brief overview of the activities in the Training/Health and Safety Division.

The 2008 Health & Safety Division Work Plan was distributed to the Board in addition to two accident prevention analyses for the 65<sup>th</sup> Street Incident on June 5, 2008 and the Jackson Fire Burnover on June 10, 2008. A third report on Stilt Court was not available yet.

Outlined the activities of the five Training priorities:

- The Academy
- The Command Training Center
- Hands-On-Training
- Prevention Link – the on-line training program provided at no cost by the Special Districts Risk Management Authority (SDRMA)
- The status of the Task Book Program

Class 07-1 – On May 17, 2008, all 17 firefighters successfully completed their probationary period so there are no probationary firefighters at this time in the District. The California Regional Fire Academy may be the direction we move to in the future for academy training.

Health and Safety programs:

- The Division Work Plan that was distributed lists the programs managed, top priorities, and the goals and objectives.
- The three priority programs are Respiratory Protection; Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Care and Maintenance; and Injury Illness Prevention (IIPP).

In response to Director Lawson on labor/management participation, Deputy Chief Miller stated both bargaining units are represented on the Safety Committee.

Injury rates are stable with about 23 per month. Statistical injury data can be provided at a future presentation.

▪ **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION REPORT –**

Report by Deputy Chief Jim Eastman:

**Community Services –**

- October 22 – Blight Busters event in Rancho Cordova
- Fire Station Resource boxes
- Cordova High Public Safety Academy – October 16 through December 11.
- North Highlands Jubilee held October 18
- Fire Prevention Week
- Station 29 Open House – tentative in early December
- Operations assisted in numerous community events

**Development/Project Manager**

- Station 29 is near completion; looking at early December

**Facilities Division Projects –**

- Station 28 office improvements
- Station 42 kitchen upgrade
- Station 62 upgrades

**Fire Prevention Bureau Activities –**

- Conducted three large-scale evacuation drills with over 700 participants
- Final weed abatement statistics for 2008 increased by 36% to 1,702 in identified parcels; 129 parcels sent to Sacramento County for abatement; and bank-owned properties increased from 14 to 56
- October 18 – Inspection of North Highlands Neighborhood Festival

**Fleet –**

- New Battalion 5 and 9 vehicles will be finished the first week in November

**Logistics –**

- Wildland sleeve upgrade continuing
- Structure gear annual inspections
- Voting precinct help with delivery of tables and chairs to 12 stations
- Two Logistics Techs helped the Training Division erect a training tower at the McClellan Academy site
- Logistics workout room set up

**Technical Services –**

- Inventorying old equipment to send to E-Waste
- Reprogramming VHF mobile radios

**Public Announcement –**

- Historical District yearbook pictures – November 3 through November 10 with makeup sessions

**Public Safety Announcement –**

- Halloween tip – instruct children on street safety rules; wear light colored and reflective clothing; carry a flashlight; wear flame retardant costumes; use face paint instead of masks; inspect all items collected; and watch out for choking hazards for young children; candles are not acceptable – use battery powered lights; and keep decorations away from any source of heat.

**California Fire Fighters Memorial –**

President Trujillo stated this is an outstanding Memorial to visit. We owe a great deal of gratitude to the California Professional Fire Fighters former President Dan Terry who lobbied about ten years to establish the Memorial.

**GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT—(Margarita)**

- Binders were sent out recently to the Board members containing a number of new and revised draft policies and procedures for review, modification if necessary, and adoption. This was done at the request of Senator Darrell Steinberg and the Board. Extended special thanks to Director Lawson and members of Local 522 and staff who took time to review it.

In response to Director Lawson, Counsel Margarita stated a workshop would be good but not in the short term. Advised taking a period of time to study the volume of material.

Director Lawson suggested a minimum of one month to review and plan on a three or four hour workshop for discussion. There will not be a meeting during the Thanksgiving Holiday week but something should be done with the consensus of the Board after that timeframe.

Counsel Margarita agreed that was appropriate.

**COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS:****Executive Committee—(Trujillo)**

- Next Meeting: TBD

**Communications Center Delegate—(Valley)**

- Next Meeting: October 28, 2008 – 10:30 AM

**California Fire & Rescue Training Authority—(Kelly)**

- Next Meeting: November 12, 2008 – 10:30 AM

**Finance Committee—(Valley)**

- Next Meeting: November 13, 2008 – 5:00 PM

**Policy Committee—(Lawson)**

- Encouraged the Board members to reach a consensus on a workshop date to discuss and establish the policies before the first of the year and the transition of officers and committees so nothing is left hanging. Requested Board Clerk Tilson to poll the Board for a viable date.
- Next Meeting: No meeting until after the Special Board Workshop.

**BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:****Goold:**

- Thanked the men and women in our organization for their sacrifices and exceptional job in helping to balance the District budget.
- Continue to hear the possibilities of dire economic conditions. All agencies should come together and help others in the event of layoffs so that no one in the fire service loses their job in this region.

**Granados:**

- Thanked the Station 63 crew for their medical aid responses at his work site.
- Echoed the sentiments of Director Goold. It's nice to have everyone talking about the challenges that we face and taking it as a team approach.
- Recognized Battalion Chief White and Captain Teague for their presentation but what is more important is that we are not seeing as many injuries and disability retirements as in the past.
- Thanked Fire Chief Mette and all of the staff who worked hard to meet the financial challenges.

**Lawson:**

- Outstanding job on the Safety Policy Report.
  - Requested the Grant/Economic Development Coordinator provide the Board at the next meeting with a copy of some of the grants being worked on.
- Larry Davis stated the Federal budget was passed in October and the grant cycle has just started. He has been working with all of the divisions.
- Assured the public in light of the budget struggles that the District intends to maintain the same high level of protective services it provides for its constituents.

**Jones:**

- Attended the California State Fire Fighters Memorial service last Saturday. Thanked staff that participated and Fire Chief Mette for affording Metro personnel the opportunity to attend and represent the District as a fire service entity in this area.
- Acknowledged the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). Through them, she had an opportunity along with 40 burn survivor children earlier this month to go to Washington, D. C. on a week-long field trip. This is an annual burn event that the IAFF sponsors. It was a terrific opportunity to expose these children to the national level of politics, monuments, and museums. Encouraged fire service members to consider acting as a counselor/chaperone for these on-going trips.

**Kelly:**

- Requested we stand in silence in memory of all the fallen firefighters at the close of this meeting.

**Valley:**

- Thanked the firefighters and employees who have been involved in negotiations to keep the District solvent and avoid layoffs.
- Felt it was wrong for The Bee to criticize the State for going to a particular area and participating in the Homeland Security meeting. The newspaper did not point out that in off seasons very good rates are offered and our agencies go to learn things and bring back information.

**Engellenner:**

- Heard a lot in the news about 9-1-1 and a cutback in operators. This will delay calls and cause a slow down in getting to the Comm Center. Need to look into that.

Fire Chief Mette stated that is the City Police Department and the majority of our calls go to the Sheriff and the Citrus Heights Police Department. The Sheriff's staffing is status quo. He felt the City would not compromise answering 9-1-1 calls. They may have some overtime issues but that is their priority.

**Trujillo:**

- Thanked staff for their excellent reports
- The men and women in the fire service that protect Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District every day are the best.

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION 6:08 PM**

[Taken out of order after Consent Agenda]

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION 6:35 PM**

[Director Clark departed ]

Report by Associate General Counsel Chavez:

**CLOSED SESSION GOVERNMENT CODES:**

**1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- POTENTIAL LITIGATION  
Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to California Government Code  
Section 54956.9(b) – Two Cases**

- A. Claim Against Public Entity Pursuant to Government Code Section 910  
Keith L. Deger v Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

The Board by a unanimous vote of the members present denied the claim and referred it to the District's insurance carrier.

- B. Claim Against Public Entity Pursuant to Government Code Section 910  
Kristen Stubblefield and Stacey Stubblefield v Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

[Director Lawson arrived at 6:20 p.m.]

The Board by a vote of 8 in favor and 1 abstention denied the claim and referred it to the District's insurance carrier.

**2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR  
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6(f)**

- A. District Negotiator: Fire Chief Don Mette  
Employee Organization: Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522

The Board was briefed regarding the status of negotiations with Local 522. No action.

- B. District Negotiator: Fire Chief Don Mette  
Employee Organization: Battalion Chiefs Organization/Teamsters Local 150

The Board was briefed on the labor negotiations. No action.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. with a moment of silence for all the fallen firefighters.

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Ray Trujillo, President

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Gregory A. Granados, Secretary

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Charlotte Tilson, Clerk of the Board